



# Decontamination required at Lake Powell

*Please do your part to help keep quagga mussels out of other waterbodies.*

In March 2013, quagga mussels were discovered in Lake Powell. These tiny clams can reproduce quickly and attach to almost any underwater surface. If they accumulate, they can damage irrigation pipes, boat engines, intake valves and other submerged items. The mussels' microscopic larvae can hide in water that accumulates on your boat and recreational equipment. To prevent these invasive mussels from spreading to other lakes and reservoirs, anyone who uses a watercraft at Lake Powell *must* decontaminate it after leaving the water.

## Why is decontamination mandatory?

It is critically important to protect our waterbodies from invasive species. If our recreation areas become infested, access to your favorite lake or reservoir could be restricted. We don't want to see this happen, so we've provided some easy decontamination processes for everyone who boats at Lake Powell. By following these laws, you — the boaters — can help keep waters clean and open for everyone.

## Decontamination is simple

Under Utah and Arizona law, you are required to decontaminate your boat when leaving Lake Powell. This means that immediately after boating — while you are still onsite at the lake — you must clean any mud and plants off your boat and drain all its water (from the wells, ballast and lower-engine unit). Then, there are two easy options to finalize the decontamination process:

**Option #1** — Before boating in another water, you must dry your boat and equipment completely: 7 days in summer (5 days in Arizona), 18 days in spring/fall and 30 days in winter.

**Option #2** — If do not have time to dry your boat completely (as specified above), please contact the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources for a free, professional decontamination before you boat in another water. Contact numbers are as follows:

**Northern Utah**  
801-648-6315

**Central Utah**  
435-503-4066

**Northeastern Utah**  
435-790-8938

**Southeastern Utah**  
435-630-3132

**Southern Utah**  
435-691-2427

## Stop for checkpoints

Law enforcement personnel will conduct random checkpoints near Lake Powell during the 2013 boating season. If you are transporting a watercraft, you will be required to stop during the checkpoints. The primary goals of the checkpoints are to:

- Verify that water or mussels are not being transported
- Educate boaters about the importance of properly decontaminating their watercraft and equipment

## Learn more

- Mussel monitoring at Lake Powell — [nps.gov/glca/parknews/musselupdate.htm](http://nps.gov/glca/parknews/musselupdate.htm)
- Mussel threats and prevention efforts in Utah — [wildlife.utah.gov/mussels](http://wildlife.utah.gov/mussels)

